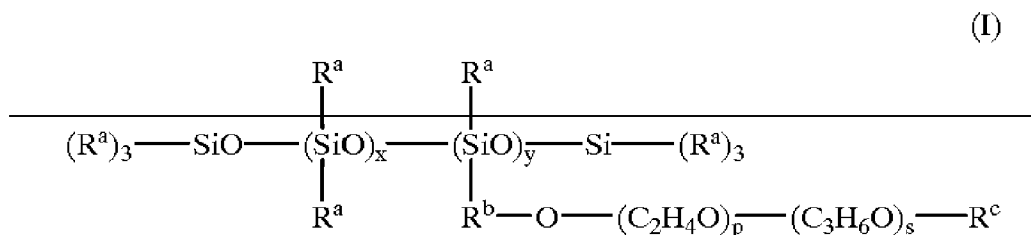


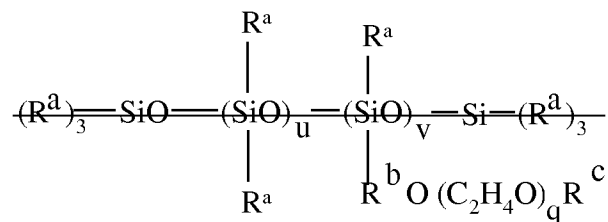
## IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making an adhesive matrix containing an adhesive and a solid powdered hydrophilic drug or a solid powdered hydrophilic excipient comprising the sequential steps of (i) forming a semi-solid composition containing the solid powdered hydrophilic drug or the solid powdered hydrophilic excipient, and a silicone polyether; (ii) adding to the semi-solid composition formed in (i) an adhesive or a solution containing a solvent and an adhesive; and (iii) mixing the semi-solid composition and the adhesive or the solution containing the solvent and the adhesive to form the adhesive matrix,

wherein the silicone polyether is selected from



where  $\text{R}^a$  is methyl group with the proviso that when  $\text{R}^a$  is a terminal group it is selected from an alkyl group of one to six carbon atoms and the group  $\text{R}^b\text{---O---}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O})_p\text{---}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O})_s\text{---R}^c$ ;  $\text{R}^b$  is the radical  $\text{---C}_m\text{H}_{2m}$ ;  $\text{R}^c$  is a terminating radical such as hydrogen, an alkyl group of one to six carbon atoms, or an aryl group such as phenyl; m has a value of two to eight; p and s have values such that the oxyalkylene segment  $\text{---}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O})_p\text{---}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O})_s\text{---}$  has a molecular weight in the range of 400 to 5,000; x has a value of 80 to 400; and y has a value of 2 to 10; and



where  $\text{R}^a$  is methyl group with the proviso that when  $\text{R}^a$  is a terminal group it is selected from an alkyl group of one to six carbon atoms and the group  $\text{R}^b - \text{O} - (\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O})_p - \text{R}^c$ ;  $\text{R}^b$  is the radical  $\text{C}_m\text{H}_{2m}$ ;  $\text{R}^c$  is a terminating radical such as hydrogen, an alkyl group of one to six carbon atoms, or an aryl group such as phenyl; m has a value of two to eight; q has a value of 8 to 16; u has a value of 6 to 12; and v has a value of 1 to 8.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the adhesive is hydrophobic.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein the hydrophobic adhesive is a silicone pressure sensitive adhesive.
4. (Original) A method according to Claim 2 including the step of (iv) applying the hydrophobic matrix to a substrate.
5. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 in which the solid powdered hydrophilic drug or the solid powdered hydrophilic excipient, and the silicone polyether, are present in the semi-solid composition in a weight ratio of 1:10 to 10:1.
6. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 in which the solution containing the

adhesive and the solvent contains 10-90 percent by weight of the adhesive and 10-90 percent by weight of the solvent.

7. (Original) A method according to Claim 3 wherein the silicone pressure sensitive adhesive comprises (i) a silicone MQ resin containing monofunctional (M) units  $R_3SiO_{1/2}$  and tetrafunctional (Q) units  $SiO_4$ , wherein R is a hydrocarbon group; and (ii) a polydiorganosiloxane fluid or a polydiorganosiloxane gum.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7 wherein the polydiorganosiloxane fluid is a hydroxyl endblocked polydiorganosiloxane fluid with a viscosity of 100 to 1,000,000 centistokes ( $mm^2/s$ ).

9. (Original) A method according to claim 7 wherein the polydiorganosiloxane gum is a hydroxyl endblocked polydiorganosiloxane gum.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) A method according to Claim 6 in which the solvent is selected from the group consisting of organic solvents, aromatic solvents, hydrocarbon solvents, low molecular weight short chain linear siloxanes, and cyclic siloxanes.

12. (Original) A method of making a hydrophobic matrix containing a silicone pressure sensitive adhesive and a solid powdered hydrophilic drug or a solid powdered hydrophilic

excipient comprising the sequential steps of (i) forming a semi-solid composition containing the solid powdered hydrophilic drug or the solid powdered hydrophilic excipient, and a surfactant; (ii) adding to the semi-solid composition formed in (i) a silicone pressure sensitive adhesive or a solution containing a solvent and a silicone pressure sensitive adhesive; and (iii) mixing the semi-solid composition and the silicone pressure sensitive adhesive or the solution containing the solvent and the silicone pressure sensitive adhesive to form the hydrophobic matrix.

13. (Original) A method according to Claim 12 including the step of (iv) applying the hydrophobic matrix to a substrate.

14-18. (Cancelled)